

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application and reflects the amendment of Claim 26 and the addition of new claims 61-73.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibrous article formed by electrospinning fibers of biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fiberizable material comprising a composite of different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibers.
2. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 1, wherein said composite of different fibers is defined by fibers of different diameters.
3. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 2, wherein said fibers of different diameters include fibers having diameters less than 1 micron and fibers having diameters greater than 1 micron.
4. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 3, wherein said fibrous article comprises at least about 20 weight percent of submicron diameter fibers.
5. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 4, wherein said fibrous article comprises at least about 50 weight percent of submicron diameter fibers.
6. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 1, wherein said composite of different fibers is defined by fibers of different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable materials.
7. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 1, wherein said composite of different fibers is defined by fibers of different diameters and different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable materials.

8. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 1, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fiberizable material comprises a biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable polymer.

9. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 8, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable polymer comprises a monomer selected from the group consisting of a glycolide, lactide, dioxanone, caprolactone, trimethylene carbonate, ethylene glycol and lysine.

10. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 8, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable polymer comprises a biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable linear aliphatic polyester.

11. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 10, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable linear aliphatic polyester is a polyglycolide or a copolymer poly(glycolide-co-lactide).

12. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 1, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fiberizable material comprises a material derived from biological tissue.

13. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 1, wherein said fibers have diameters in the range from about 10 up to about 1,000 nanometers.

14. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 13, wherein said fibers have diameters in the range from about 20 to about 500 nanometers.

15. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 1, further comprising small blobs of biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable material.

16. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 1, further comprising at least one medicinal agent.

17. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 16, wherein said medicinal agent is contained within said fibers.

18. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 17, further comprising fibers with different concentrations of said medicinal agent.

19. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 17, further comprising fibers with different medicinal agents.

20. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of layers, wherein at least one of the layers comprises a composite of different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibers.

21. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 20, further comprising at least one medicinal agent between at least two of said layers.

22. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 1, wherein said fibrous article has a controlled degradation rate.

23. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 1, wherein said fibrous article is a membrane.

24. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 23, wherein said membrane has a thickness in the range of about 10 to about 5000 microns.

25. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 24, wherein said membrane has a thickness in the range of about 20 to about 1000 microns.

26. (Currently Amended) A ~~biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable~~ fibrous article according to claim 1, wherein said composite is formed by electrospinning fibers of ~~biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fiberizable material comprising an asymmetric composite~~ of different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibers.

27. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 26, wherein different fibers refers to fibers of different diameters.

28. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 27, wherein said fibers of different diameters include fibers having diameters less than 1 micron and fibers having diameters greater than 1 micron.

29. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 28, wherein said fibrous article comprises at least about 20 weight percent of submicron diameter fibers.

30. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 29, wherein said fibrous article comprises at least about 50 weight percent of submicron diameter fibers.

31. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 26, wherein different fibers refers to fibers of different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable materials.

32. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 26, wherein different fibers refers to fibers of different diameters and different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable materials.

33. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 26, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fiberizable material comprises a biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable polymer.

34. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 33, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable polymer comprises a monomer selected from the group consisting of a glycolide, lactide, dioxanone, caprolactone, trimethylene carbonate, ethylene glycol and lysine.

35. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 33, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable polymer comprises a biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable linear aliphatic polyester.

36. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 35, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable linear aliphatic polyester is a polyglycolide or a copolymer poly(glycolide-co-lactide).

37. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 26, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fiberizable material comprises a material derived from biological tissue.

38. (Original) A fibrous article membrane according to claim 26, wherein said fibers have diameters in the range from about 10 up to about 1,000 nanometers.

39. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 38, wherein said fibers have diameters in the range from about 20 to about 500 nanometers.

40. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 26, further comprising small blobs of biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable material.

41. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 26, further comprising at least one medicinal agent.

42. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 41, wherein said medicinal agent is contained within said fibers.

43. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 42, further comprising fibers with different concentrations of said medicinal agent.

44. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 42, further comprising fibers with different medicinal agents.

45. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 26, wherein said fibrous article has a controlled degradation rate.

46. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 26, wherein said fibrous article is a membrane.

47. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 46, wherein said membrane has a thickness in the range of about 10 to about 5000 microns.

48. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 47, wherein said membrane has a thickness in the range of about 20 to about 1000 microns.

49. (Original) A fibrous article formed by electrospinning different fibers of different materials, comprising a composite of different fibers which comprises fibers of at least one biodegradable material and fibers of at least one non-biodegradable material.

50. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 49, wherein said different fibers comprise submicron diameter fibers.

51. (Original) A fibrous article according to claim 49, wherein said composite is an asymmetric composite of said different fibers.

52. (Original) A method for reducing surgical adhesions which comprises positioning an adhesion-reducing barrier between the site of surgical activity and neighboring tissue, said barrier comprising a biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable membrane, wherein said membrane comprises a composite or asymmetric composite of different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibers; a plurality of layers, with at least two layers having different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibers from each other; or sub-micron diameter biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibers, having at least one medicinal agent contained within the fibers.

53. (Original) A method according to claim 52, wherein different fibers refers to fibers of different diameters.

54. (Original) A method according to claim 52, wherein different fibers refers to fibers of different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable materials.

55. (Original) A method according to claim 52, wherein different fibers refers to fibers of different diameters and different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable materials.

56. (Original) A method for providing controlled tissue healing which comprises implanting at a target site in an animal, a system for controlled tissue healing, said system comprising a biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibrous article, wherein said fibrous article comprises a composite of different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibers or an asymmetric composite of different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibers.

57. (Original) A method according to claim 56, wherein said fibrous article is selected from the group consisting of a scaffold for guided tissue regeneration, a protective covering for redirecting healing, a protective covering for weakened tissue and an anti-fibroblastic growth barrier.

58. (Original) A method according to claim 56, wherein different fibers refers to fibers of different diameters.

59. (Original) A method according to claim 56, wherein different fibers refers to fibers of different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable materials.

60. (Original) A method according to claim 56, wherein different fibers refers to fibers of different diameters and different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable materials.

61. (New) A biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibrous article comprising a composite of different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibers.

62. (New) A fibrous article according to claim 61, wherein said composite of different fibers is defined by fibers of different diameters.

63. (New) A fibrous article according to claim 62, wherein said fibrous article comprises at least about 20 weight percent of submicron diameter fibers.

64. (New) A fibrous article according to claim 63, wherein said fibrous article comprises at least about 50 weight percent of submicron diameter fibers.

65. (New) A fibrous article according to claim 61, wherein said composite of different fibers is defined by fibers of different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable materials.

66. (New) A fibrous article according to claim 61, wherein said composite of different fibers is defined by fibers of different diameters and different biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable materials.

67. (New) A fibrous article according to claim 61, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibers comprise fibers formed from at least one biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable polymer.

68. (New) A fibrous article according to claim 67, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable polymer comprises a biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable linear aliphatic polyester.

69. (New) A fibrous article according to claim 68, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable linear aliphatic polyester is a polyglycolide or a copolymer poly(glycolide-co-lactide).

70. (New) A fibrous article according to claim 61, wherein said biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable fibers comprise fibers formed from at least one material derived from biological tissue.

71. (New) A fibrous article according to claim 61, wherein said fibers have diameters in the range from about 10 up to about 1,000 nanometers.

72. (New) A fibrous article according to claim 71, wherein said fibers have diameters in the range from about 20 to about 500 nanometers.

73. (New) A fibrous article according to claim 61, further comprising small blobs of biodegradable and/or bioabsorbable material.